



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Michael Fabry
Serial No. : 09/757,338
Filed : January 9, 2001
Title : VEHICLE ELECTROACOUSTICAL TRANSDUCING

Art Unit : 2644
Examiner : Minsun Oh Harvey

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Technology Center 2600

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RULE 131 DECLARATION OF MICHAEL FABRY

I, Michael Fabry, hereby declare and state that:

1. I am the inventor of the invention defined by claims 1-11 of the above-referenced application.

2. I conceived the subject matter of the above-referenced invention while working at Bose Corporation in Framingham, Massachusetts prior to November 29, 2000, the publication date of the prior art Kowaki reference, which was cited by the Examiner in rejecting claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in the Office Action dated February 2, 2004.

3. I reduced the above-referenced invention to practice at Bose Corporation in Framingham, Massachusetts also prior to November 29, 2000, the publication date of the reference.

4. I reduced the above-referenced invention to practice in Framingham, Massachusetts by building the system shown in the accompanying sketch having left and right front speakers and a center front speaker and left and right rear speakers and a rear center speaker as shown in the accompanying sketch. The left and right front speakers were fed left and right stereo signals, respectively, and the front center speaker was fed a center signal. The left rear speaker was fed a left signal plus a center signal plus a left surround signal. The right rear speaker was fed a right signal plus a center signal plus a right surround

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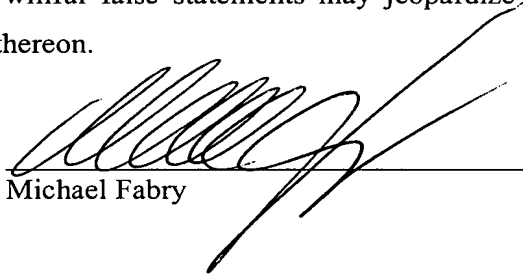
Charles Hicken

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signal. The rear center speaker was fed a left surround plus a right surround signal. The rear speakers acted as the surround speakers for front seat speakers but also acted as stereo speakers for the rear seat passengers. A surround signal having left, center, right, left surround and right surround components was fed to the different speakers as indicated above, and I perceived stereo surround sound while sitting in the front seat. Sitting in the rear seat, I perceived stereo sound.

5. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements, and the like so made, are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001, Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: 7/21/04


Michael Fabry